

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



May 20, 1988

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 88-48

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: STEWART B. McKINNEY HOMELESS ASSISTANCE ACT PROVISION --  
DEFINITION OF "TEMPORARY HOUSING"

REFERENCE: ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 88-14, DATED JANUARY 29, 1988

The purpose of this letter is to inform the County Welfare Departments (CWDs) of the revised criteria for the determination of "temporary housing" as it relates to one of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act provisions implemented recently. Specifically, this provision excludes from consideration as income for food stamp purposes PA or GA payments for housing assistance made to a third party on behalf of a household residing in temporary housing, provided such housing lacks facilities for the preparation and cooking of hot meals or the refrigerated storage of food for home consumption.

In All County Letter No. 88-14, the answer to question 13 stated that the "temporary housing" may be determined if any time limit is imposed by the housing unit or by the CWDs. Recently, the Department learned of situations where food stamp applicants/recipients receiving GA vendor payments for housing assistance live in hotels or motels for short periods of time until they are able to find permanent housing. However, these situations may not be considered to be "temporary housing" according to the Department's criteria. This is because technically, neither the CWD nor the housing provider is imposing any time limit on the length of their stay at these places.

After further analysis of the situation above and the intent of the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act provisions, the Department has concluded that the criteria established in ACL No. 88-14 for determining residence in temporary housing needs to be expanded. The determination of whether a food stamp applicant or recipient

resides in temporary housing will now be verified by the fact that a time limit is imposed by the housing facility or the CWD, or by the applicant/recipient's statement that their housing situation is temporary. If it is determined to be a temporary housing situation, then the GA vendor payment for housing must be excluded from income consideration.

The definition of temporary housing will be included in the state regulations which will implement the McKinney Homeless Assistance Act. These regulations are being finalized on an emergency basis and are expected to take effect June 1, 1988.

If you have any questions concerning this issue, please contact the AFDC and Food Stamp Policy Implementation Bureau at (916) 322-5330.



ROBERT A. HOREL  
Deputy Director

cc: CWDA